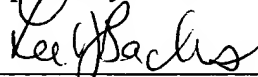


**REMARKS**

The entire present specification defines forms of a fiber reinforced composite article and a member with reinforcing fibers comprising a plurality of discrete regions each of which must necessarily extend completely through its matrix. The term "substantially" had been included appropriately to avoid literal infringement by insignificant minor article or member surface changes that do not cause loss of the invention's benefit. For the purpose of clarifying that structure and narrowing the issues in the examination of claims under consideration in this application, claims 1, 13 and 35 - 38, from which all other such claims depend directly or indirectly, have been amended. The term "substantially" has been deleted and the term "completely" has been inserted appropriately consistent with the concept of the invention. The amendments are intended to emphasize that the regions necessarily extend completely through the matrix, without relinquishing the inherent concept that the claims continue to cover any insignificant, minor changes in the structure surfaces that do not affect the invention's function.

In view of the present claim amendments, applicant repeats the arguments presented in the paper filed February 06, 2003 in respect to the current rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103(a) based on Parthasarathy et al. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter this amendment, and reconsider and withdraw all rejections of all claims remaining under consideration in this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 1, 13 and 35 – 38 as follows:

Claim 1, line 3, delete “substantially”.

Claim 13, line 5, delete “substantially”.

Claim 35, lines 3 and 6, delete “substantially”.

Claim 36, line 6, after “pattern”, insert --completely--.

Claim 37, lines 3 and 6, delete “substantially”.

Claim 38, line 6, after “pattern”, insert --completely--.